

Message Text

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NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (JAVITS, JACOB)

SUBJECT: CODEL JAVITS

1. JAVITS AND LAKELAND LEFT THIS MORNING AFTER FOUR-DAY VISIT WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE MOST WORTHWHILE FROM EVERY VIEWPOINT. DETAILS OF VISIT INCLUDING CONVERSATIONS WITH SAUDI OFFICIALS ARE BEING FURNISHED SEPTEL. ONE POSSIBLE SIGNIFICANT SERIES OF EVENTS BEING COMMUNICATED HEREWITH TO YOU FOR HOPEFULLY USEFUL BACKGROUND WHEN JAVITS REPORTS ON VISIT TO YOU AND THE PRESIDENT.

2. FOLLOWING TWENTY-MINUTE MEETING WITH KING KHALID AND CROWN PRINCE FAHD, WE MET WITH FAHD FOR APPROXIMATELY AN HOUR. DISCUSSION WAS WIDE-RANGING, CORDIAL, AND FAHD AND JAVITS SEEMED TO ESTABLISH UNUSUALLY GOOD RAPPORT WITH BOTH STATING IN MOST POSITIVE TERMS THEIR COMMITMENT TO PEACE IN THE MIDEAST AND THEIR SHARED VIEW THAT NOW IS THE TIME FOR IT TO HAPPEN. AT THE DEPARTURE, FAHD CLASPED JAVITS WITH BOTH HANDS AND STATED: "I NOW LOOK UPON YOU NOT ONLY AS A FRIEND BUT AS A TRUE ALLY AND FELLOW WORKER FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN THE MIDEAST." JAVITS REPLIED THAT HE WAS A TRUE FRIEND AND THAT HE PROMISED TO WORK WITH FAHD FOR PEACE. FAHD THEN ASKED JAVITS WHY HE HAD NOT BEEN TO SYRIA TO VISIT WITH ASAD, AND JAVITS REPLIED

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THAT LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS HAD PREVENTED IT, PRIMARILY THE LACK OF A JET AIRPLANE. FAHD THEN OFFERED ONE OF HIS PLANES TO TAKE JAVITS TO DAMASCUS INSISTING THAT JAVITS' MEETING WITH ASAD WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

3. AFTER THE MEETING, I POINTED OUT TO JAVITS THAT HE PERHAPS UNWITTINGLY NOW FOUND HIMSELF IN THE SAME POSITION

FOR WHICH HE HAD CRITICIZED THE PRESIDENT, NAMELY, THAT HE, JAVITS, HAD AROUSED THE HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE ARAB LEADERS FOR IMMEDIATE PEACE. HE SEEMED A LITTLE ABASHED AND REPLIED THAT HE WAS ACCUSTOMED TO ASSUMING LARGE RESPONSIBILITIES. WE POINTED OUT THAT HIS RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE MIDEAST HERETOFORE HAD BEEN TO HIS CONSTITUENTS AND TO HIS FRIENDS IN ISRAEL, BUT ANOTHER DIMENSION HAD NOW BEEN ADDED BECAUSE HIS NEW FRIENDS IN SAUDI ARABIA EXPECTED HIM TO TAKE A LEADING AND RESPONSIBLE ROLE IN THE PEACE EFFORTS.

4. THE TRIP TO SYRIA DID NOT MATERIALIZE BECAUSE OF INABILITY TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT WITH ASAD. HOWEVER, AT THE DINNER GIVEN FRIDAY NIGHT BY PRINCE SAUD FOR JAVITS, THIS SAME CONCEPT WAS DISCUSSED AND SEEMINGLY ACCEPTED TO SOME DEGREE BY JAVITS, NAMELY, THAT HAVING BEEN HERE AND TALKED WITH ARAB LEADERS WITH AGREEMENT ON PEACE OBJECTIVES, HIS RESPONSIBILITY WAS NOW GREATER THAN BEFORE AS WAS HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE AREA, PERSONALITIES, AND ISSUES.

5. COMMENT: MY IMPRESSION IS THAT JAVITS' VISIT WAS CONSTRUCTIVE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: (A) FACE TO FACE DISCUSSIONS WITH ARAB LEADERS ESTABLISHED CORDIAL RAPPORT BETWEEN SAUDIS AND JAVITS AND GAVE TO HIM ADDED FEELING OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR MID-EAST PEACE; (B) IT EMPHASIZED TO SENATOR U.S. DEPENDENCE UPON SAUDI OIL TO AVERT MAJOR
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ENERGY CRISIS IN THE 1980'S. SENATOR DID NOT SEEM TO FULLY APPRECIATE HERETOFORE THE CRITICAL NATURE OF THIS ISSUE; (C) DISCUSSIONS WITH AL-KHAYL, MINISTER OF FINANCE, AND QURAYSHI, GOVERNOR OF SAMA BANK, AS WELL AS KING AND CROWN PRINCE, ON NECESSITY OF MAJOR SAUDI ROLE ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCE SEEMED CONSTRUCTIVE.

6. I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HAVING VALIDITY OF THESE CONCLUSIONS EVALUATED AFTER DEBRIEFING OF JAVITS.
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